GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:5629
ANSWERED ON:03.05.2005
DECLINING TREND IN SCIENCE EDUCATION
Owaisi Shri Asaduddin

Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether any institute like Indian Institute of Science (IISc) exists in the country for science students;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the number of students opting for science after 10+2 has declined from 31% in 1950 to 20% in 1990 and has decreed further in 2001;

(d) if so, the main reasons therefor; and

(e) the steps taken/being taken by the Government in this direction?

Answer

MTN1STER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRI M.A.A. FATMI)

(a) & (b): No, Sir. Does not arise.

(c) & (d): No, Sir. According to the UGC, student enrolments in Science Education in University & Colleges through the formal system of Higher Education for the year 1971-72 which was 30.3%, included the enrolment relating to the UP. Board Intermediate Education. Thereafter, the data relating to UP. Board Intermediate Education was excluded, leading to the percentage of science students of 19.6% in the year 1990-91, which increased to 20.5% in 2001-02.

(e): Making Science education more attractive & purposeful is a continuous process The Government has made efforts beginning from the school stage itself to make science courses interesting by making financial provisions for school laboratories, science libraries, training of Science & Mathematics Teachers, for participation in Science Olympiads. NGOs have also been funded for this purpose. The UGC provides support to recognized Science Departments of Universities as Centre for Advance Studies (CAS) to encourage pursuit of excellence under the program of special assistance. Courses at Master/Bachelor level or special papers undertaken in universities and colleges are supported under the Innovative Programmes and new Emerging Areas. A scheme for strengthening infrastructure for Science and Technology is also in operation

since 1983.